

# CONSTITUTION

*OF THE*

# FRATERNITY

*OF*

# ALPHA CHI RHO



*1904*

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ARTICLE I.

Of the Fraternity of Alpha Chi Rho.

*Sec. 1. Government.*—The government of the Fraternity of Alpha Chi Rho shall be vested in National Convention, Chapters and Graduate Associations, subject to the provisions of this Constitution.

*Sec. 2. Membership.*—No man who is a member of another college fraternity shall be eligible to membership in Alpha Chi Rho; and no Brother in Alpha Chi Rho shall join any other college fraternity. This section shall not be construed as a prohibition on honorary or professional societies.

*Sec. 3. Withdrawal.*—There is no such thing as a resignation or voluntary withdrawal from membership in Alpha Chi Rho.

ARTICLE II.

Of the National Convention.

*Sec. 1. Jurisdiction and Power.*—This National Convention shall have general jurisdiction

over the Fraternity at large. It possesses the right and power of granting charters; of suspending or cancelling the same upon proper cause; of receiving and hearing all appeals; of enacting laws for its own government and support; and all powers not specially delegated to the Chapters or Graduate Associations are inherent in and reserved to the National Convention.

**Sec. 2. Composition.**—The National Convention shall be composed of its Officers, as hereinafter named, and delegates representative as follows: The active members in each active Chapter shall have two delegates; each Graduate Association allied with an active Chapter shall have two delegates; and each Graduate Association allied with an inactive Chapter shall have one delegate. Delegates in all cases shall be regularly elected and properly certified by the Chapter or Graduate Association, and hold office for the term of one year or until their successors are elected.

**Sec. 3. Sessions.**—The National Convention shall hold one regular session each year, beginning on the second Thursday in February, at such place as may be determined upon at the preceding annual session. But the National Council shall have power to change the precise time and place of holding the session, if they deem it for the best interests of the National Convention so to do, which change shall be announced before the first of January preceding. The National Council may call special sessions of the National Convention when they deem it necessary or expedient for the interests of the Fraternity; and upon petition of one-half of the Chapters, the President and Secretary shall call such sessions; but no business shall be originated at a special session except such as is mentioned in the call; and notices

thereof, with a copy of the call, shall be sent to each Chapter and Graduate Association at least three weeks prior to the time of its commencement.

**Sec. 4. Quorum.**—A quorum shall consist of one-third of all delegates entitled to seats in the National Convention.

**Sec. 5. Voting.**—Delegates alone have the power of voting, and each delegate shall have but one vote on any question; the presiding officer, in case the votes are equally divided, may give the casting vote. In case of the absence of a regular delegate, a regularly elected and certified alternate shall be entitled to his seat and vote. Proxy voting is not allowed, except that, for reasons of weight approved by the National Council, one delegate may be permitted to cast the entire vote of the Chapter or Graduate Association. A majority vote shall decide all questions, except such as affect (1) Changing this Constitution, (2) Removing a National Convention official, (3) Suspending a Chapter, (4) Suspending a member of the National Convention, (5) Expelling a member of the Fraternity, and (6) Cancelling the Charter of a Chapter. To determine (1), (2), (3), or (4), requires a three-fourths vote. To determine (5) or (6) requires a unanimous vote, exclusive of the delegates from the active Chapter and the allied Graduate Association of the Chapter under consideration.

**Sec. 6. Officers.**—The Officers shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, no two of which offices shall be held by one Brother at the same time. All officers must be members of the Fraternity in good standing, and the President

must in addition be a graduate member. The officers shall be elected by ballot at the regular annual session of the National Convention, and hold office for the term of one year or until their successors are elected. Vacancies may be filled by the National Council at any time.

**Sec. 7. Duties of President.**—The President shall preside at the sessions of the National Convention, and enforce a due observance of the Constitution, Laws, and Ritual of the Fraternity; decide all questions of law and order, and all appeals, which decisions shall be binding unless reversed by the National Convention; sign all orders on the Treasurer, drawn in accordance with law; and appoint all committees unless otherwise ordered. He shall have power to require the attendance of and information from any National Convention official respecting his office. He shall visit each Chapter officially at least once each year, personally, or where such personal visitation is impossible, by a deputy who shall be of the National Council and of another Chapter than that visited, and examine into the condition of said Chapter, and on the occasion of such visit shall examine its books and records, and see that they are properly kept; point out any errors he may ascertain in their conduct or mode of procedure; and take such other constitutional action as he shall think for the best interests of the Chapter; and for the purpose of such visitation he may convene a Chapter at any time, preside therein during such convention, and require a full rehearsal of the Ritual, or any part thereof, as actually practised in said Chapter. He may, with the consent of the National Council, admit or delegate authority to admit into the Fraternity a sufficient number of eligible persons, in places where no Chapter exists, for the purpose of

organizing new Chapters; and in the interim of sessions of the National Convention, he may grant Charters for new Chapters, after the approval of the National Council.

**Sec. 8. Duties of Vice-President.**—The Vice-President shall assist the President in preserving order; superintend the balloting; count votes upon division; and perform the duties of the President in his absence.

**Sec. 9. Duties of Secretary.**—The Secretary shall keep a faithful record of the transactions of the National Convention; draw all orders on the Treasurer; keep a true account of the standing of all Chapters and Graduate Associations; and make annual report in writing to the National Convention.

**Sec. 10. Duties of Treasurer.**—The Treasurer shall collect all moneys of the National Convention; keep a record of all receipts and expenditures; preserve all bills; and report the condition of the treasury whenever requested by the National Convention or by the President.

**Sec. 11. The National Council.**—The National Council shall consist of the President and the Secretary of the National Convention and of three members elected by the National Convention at its regular session by ballot for the term of three years, one being chosen each year. The three Councillors elected for three years must be of different Chapters. The President of the National Convention shall be *ex-officio* chairman, and the Secretary of the National Convention shall be *ex-officio* secretary, of the Council. The National Council

shall be the advisory board of the President, the legal Board of Trustees of the National Fraternity, and the supreme executive authority of the Fraternity during the interim of sessions in all matters coming within the jurisdiction of the National Convention. It shall have power on unanimous vote to grant, issue and name Charters for new Chapters, and to suspend any Chapter for proper cause. It shall be a high court of justice with power to suspend any Brother from membership in the Fraternity, or any member from office in a Chapter or Graduate Association, subject in every case to appeal to the National President or to the National Convention. It shall have general control of the publications of the Fraternity. It shall fill all vacancies in the National Convention offices and in its own number. It may meet on its own adjournment or be called together by the President, and shall present the National Convention, through the Secretary, each annual session, with a record of all meetings held during the year.

**Sec. 12. Finance Committee.**—The President shall annually appoint a standing committee on Finance, consisting of three members from the National Convention, one of whom shall be the Treasurer thereof. This committee shall examine, audit, and report on all bills and claims presented, and on the books and accounts of the officers; and submit at the regular annual session a full written report of the state of the Finances, and an estimated budget of the amount of money needed for the ensuing year, the necessary means for raising the same, and recommendations of such financial measures as it may deem expedient.

**Sec. 13. Constitution Committee.**—The President shall annually appoint a standing committee

on Constitution, consisting of three members, one of whom shall be the Vice-President of the National Convention. This committee shall examine all proposed amendments or alterations in the Constitution and Rules, and report on the same with recommendations, annually, to the National Convention; and no amendment or alteration in the Constitution shall be made until this Committee shall have so reported.

**Sec. 14. Revenue.**—The revenue of this body shall be derived from Charter fees, taxes, assessments, or in any way the National Convention may from time to time direct. Expenditures on account of the National Convention shall be made only by consent or authority of the National Convention.

**Sec. 15. Returns.**—All Chapters and Graduate Associations shall make full returns annually as required by the National Convention. Any Chapter or Association failing to make its report and pay its tax or assessment shall be reported to the National Convention as not in good standing, and the delegates of such reported chapter or association shall not be permitted to sit in the National Convention until it is placed in good standing.

### ARTICLE III. Of Chapters.

**Sec. 1. Charter.**—Every Chapter must have a charter from the National Convention, and no Chapter shall be deemed legal or regular without such charter. No charter shall be issued without

the recommendation of the Chapter whose jurisdiction would be affected by such new Chapter, nor without a unanimous vote of the National Council.

**Sec. 2. Forfeiture of Charter.**—A Chapter may forfeit its charter by contumacy to the authority of the National Convention or of the President; by ceasing to hold councils for one year; or by neglecting to make returns and pay dues for two years. There is no such thing as a voluntary surrender of charter by vote of a Chapter.

**Sec. 3. Ban on Illegal Chapters.**—Meetings, public or private, are hereby interdicted and forbidden between any Chapter under the National Convention of the Fraternity of Alpha Chi Rho, and any Chapter illegally formed, opened, or holden, or any of its members, or any person initiated in such illegal Chapter.

**Sec. 4. Membership in General.**—There may be four classes of members in each Chapter: Active, Graduate, Affiliated, and Honorary.

**Sec. 5. Active Members.**—Active members are undergraduates in the college or university where the Chapter is located who have been legally elected by unanimous secret ballot, and duly initiated; but be it provided that in no case shall a single adverse vote be sufficient to exclude a candidate, if the reason for such vote be not sustained by the Chapter. Active members shall possess the general rights of active membership in the Chapter, and every active Chapter must have active members.

**Sec. 6. Graduate Members.**—Graduate members are the brothers in the Faculty, and the gradu-

ate students at the college or university where the Chapter is located, and such as have wholly or partially completed their course at the college or university, being members of the Chapter there located, who have not affiliated with any other Chapter. Graduate members, upon assuming the obligations of active members, may be admitted to all privileges of such members, except voting for Chapter delegates or holding such office. Other graduate members shall have at least the right of the floor.

**Sec. 7. Affiliated Members.**—Affiliated members are graduate members of a Chapter who have formally expressed a desire for affiliation with another Chapter, permission having been obtained from the Chapter of original jurisdiction. Affiliated members shall have at least the right of the floor.

**Sec. 8. Honorary Members.**—To become an honorary member, the candidate must be a graduate of a college or of a professional school recognized by the Fraternity; must be proposed by unanimous vote of a Chapter or of a Graduate Association to the National Council at least two weeks before the time appointed for the regular annual session of the National Convention; must be unanimously elected by the National Convention; and must be regularly initiated in the Chapter where the proposition originated. Honorary members shall have the rights of graduate members.

**Sec. 9. Ritual.**—Every Chapter shall possess a certified copy of the Ritual of the Fraternity of Alpha Chi Rho, and work under that Ritual exclusively. No Chapter has the right or power to alter the Ritual.

**Sec. 10. Officers.**—Every Chapter shall have power to choose and select its own officers, but every Chapter shall have all the officers as set forth in the Ritual. In addition, every Chapter shall have an officer styled the Corresponding Secretary, elected at the last council in the college year, whose duties shall be to represent the National Organization and assist the National President and the National Council in carrying out their decrees; to be custodian of all books and documents of the Chapter; to conduct the general correspondence of the Chapter; to give notice of all initiations and suspensions at once to the Corresponding Secretary of each of the other Chapters and to the National Secretary; and to make a bi-monthly report to the National Secretary of the condition of the Chapter, all its initiations and suspensions, names of officers, all changes in Constitution, and other items of general interest.

**Sec. 11. Discipline.**—Every Chapter shall have power to hear and determine trials for disloyalty and matters of difference among its own active members, and to discipline to the limit of suspension. Complaints against a member must be presented at a regular council, an investigation must be made, and a reasonable opportunity must be afforded the accused to answer the complaint before final action is taken. By unanimous vote, a Chapter may recommend the expulsion of a member to the National Convention, but final expulsion of an active member and disciplinary control over all other members rest in all cases with the National Convention. No action taken by a Chapter can bar the right of a member from appealing to the President or to the National Convention. Appeals must be made, however, within one month from the decision from which the appeal is taken.

**Sec. 12. Finances.**—A Chapter has the sole right of managing its own finances, but in no case may arbitrary taxes be laid on Graduate, Affiliated, or Honorary members.

**Sec. 13. Record.**—The Record of every council, whether regular or special, shall be read, corrected, and approved by each Chapter, and such proceedings shall be submitted to the National Convention or to the National Council whenever required; and having been approved, cannot be altered or expunged.

**Sec. 14. Laws.**—Every Chapter has inherent right to make a Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations for its own government and support, provided that such laws and regulations are conformable to this Constitution and the rules of the Fraternity, and that a copy of the Chapter Constitution, with all amendments thereto, be kept filed with the National Secretary.

## ARTICLE IV.

### Of Graduate Associations.

**Sec. 1. Composition**—The Graduate members of a Chapter may form an organization, which shall be known as the Graduate Association of the College or University where the Chapter is located. A notice of such organization must be filed with the National Secretary.

**Sec. 2. Powers.**—The Graduate Associations shall have no superior governmental control over the allied undergraduate Chapters, but shall be ready to offer such advice as the good of the Fraternity may require.

**Sec. 3. Meeting.**—Each Graduate Association shall hold at least one stated meeting each year, at which time a report of the year's work shall be prepared for presentation to the National Convention.

**Sec. 4. Permanence.**—A Graduate Association is not extinguished by a Chapter becoming inactive, but may continue so long as its keeps its own organization intact, and in harmonious relation with the National Convention.

**Sec. 5. Laws.**—Every Graduate Association shall have power to make Laws and Regulations for its own government and support, provided that such laws and regulations are conformable to this Constitution and the Rules of the Fraternity, and that copies of the same shall be kept filed with the National Secretary.

## ARTICLE V.

### Of Alpha Chi Rho Clubs.

**Sec. 1. Composition.**—Members of the Fraternity of Alpha Chi Rho may organize clubs or associations for social purposes in towns, cities, or States of the United States, or in Foreign Countries, but notices of such organization must be filed with the National Secretary.

**Sec. 2. Powers.**—No Alpha Chi Rho Club shall exercise governmental authority in the Fraternity, and no such club shall be represented in the National Convention.

**Sec. 3. Laws.**—Every Alpha Chi Rho Club or Association shall have power to make laws and regulations for its own government and support, provided that such laws and regulations are conformable to this Constitution and the Rules of the Fraternity, and that copies of the same shall be kept filed with the National Secretary.

## ARTICLE VI.

### Of "The Garnet and White."

**Sec. 1. Name and Control.**—The exoteric printed publication of the Fraternity shall be known as "The Garnet and White." It shall be issued not less than four times a year, and shall be under the general control of the National Council.

**Sec. 2. Board of Editors.**—"The Garnet and White" shall be edited and published by a Board of Editors, as follows: A Managing Editor, A Business Manager, and an Associate Editor from every Chapter and from every Graduate Association allied with an inactive Chapter. The Associate Editors shall be elected by their several Chapters at the first council in January in every year, and hold office for one year or until their successors are elected.

**Sec. 3. Managing Editor and Business Manager.**—The Managing Editor and Business Manager shall be elected by the National Convention, to hold office for three years or until their successors are elected. No member of the Fraternity shall be eligible to the office of Managing Editor or Business Manager, unless he shall

have signified, in person or in writing, his willingness to serve in said capacity. Both officers shall present annual reports to the National Convention.

*Sec. 4. Vacancies.*—The National Council shall have the power to fill vacancies in the offices of Managing Editor and Business Manager, and to remove either or both officials if sufficient cause exists for such removal.

## ARTICLE VII.

### Of Property.

*Sec. 1. Real Estate.*—All Real Estate, Chapter Houses, and the furnishings thereof, and all Ritual paraphernalia and official records of any kind, shall be held in the name of the Fraternity of Alpha Chi Rho, and in case of the discipline of the Chapter shall remain the property of the National Fraternity.

*Sec. 2. Pins.*—Every Initiate shall sign the following:

“I hereby agree to accept the Fraternity Pin, to retain possession of it so long as I shall remain a member of the Fraternity, and to surrender the same to this Chapter, should my connection with the Fraternity be severed.”

## ARTICLE VIII.

### Of Amendments.

*Proviso.*—If any amendment to this Constitution be adopted, it shall be sent to each Chapter and Graduate Association, and the Chapters and

Graduate Associations shall add it as an appendix to their official copy of the Constitution, and no alteration or erasure shall be made in the Body of such official copy by the Chapter or Graduate Association, until a new Official Copy shall be issued by the National Secretary, embodying all amendments made and in force since the last official copy was issued, when such new copy shall supersede the old as the official copy of the Constitution, and the former reply be returned to the National Secretary to be destroyed.

*I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and  
just copy of the Constitution of the Fraternity of  
Alpha Chi Rho, embodying all amendments adopted  
by the National Convention up to and including the  
New York Session of 1904.*

*Signed:*

*CARLTON HUNTLEY HAYES,  
National Secretary.*